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where a heavy breaking sea was running, which rendered it impossible to be done by means of a boat. It appears to me to be a most simple, ready, and perfectly safe mode; and I have no hesitation in saying, I should myself adopt it in the event of shipwreck.

(Signed) J. N. MEREDITH, R.N.
Commander.

London, April 7, 1831.

No. IX.

APPARATUS TO ENABLE A WOMAN, WHO HAS
LOST HER LEFT HAND, TO WORK WITH
HER NEEDLE.

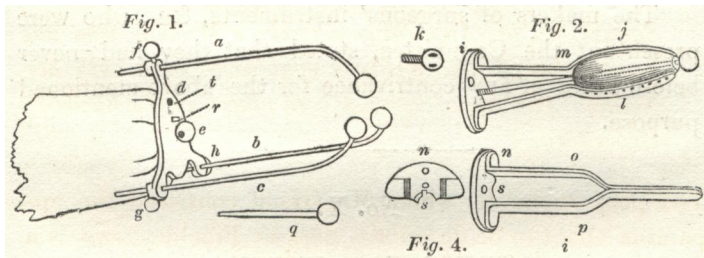
The LARGE SILVER MEDAL was presented to E. S. GRAEFF, Esq., of 24, Southampton Place, Euston Square, for his Apparatus whereby a Woman, who has lost the Left Hand, has been enabled to work with her Needle. The Apparatus has been placed in the Society's Repository.

THE poor woman for whom Mr. Graeff contrived the apparatus about to be described, lives at Finchley, and is a tenant of his. She has been in the regular use of the instrument for several months, and by means of it is capable of using her needle with ease and despatch. Specimens of work done by her, in darning, hemming, and sewing, were laid before the Committee.

A triangular piece of iron, bored with several holes, is let into the end of the leathern case which covers the stump, fig. 1. Over this is laid a circular plate of steel,

with three equidistant short arms projecting horizontally, and is secured in its place by the screw *e*, which, with the other screws about to be mentioned, is terminated by a perforated round head, through which the wire *q* may be passed, forming a lever for tightening or relaxing the screw.

For darning; the three steel wires *a b c*, bent at the end and terminated by balls, are inserted in holes made in the short arms of the plate already described. These wires are screwed or roughened, that they may be shifted a little either way without moving the binding screws *f g h*: the stocking, or other article to be darned, is then drawn over them, taking care to place the hole as nearly as possible between two of the wires, which are then to be shifted so as to form a span, answering the same purpose as the workwoman's thumb and forefinger: by turning the wires inward or outward they may be made to adapt themselves to a stocking of any size.



For hemming; take away the wires *a b c*, and fix on the plate the piece fig. 2. The base *i* must be so put on the plate that the notched recess on the further side of it, indicated by *s* fig. 4, shall abut against the stud *r* fig. 1, while the hole through the base shall correspond with the hole in the plate *t* fig. 1: the screw *k* is then to be passed into both holes and made tight. The part of the article to be hemmed must be first turned down and pressed by the

thumb-nail to the proper size, and must then be passed under the spring *l*, over the ivory swivel *j*, and under the spring *m*: it is now in a fit position to be worked, the springs answering the same purpose as the thumb and second finger, and the swivel representing the forefinger, over which the work is folded.

For sewing; replace the piece fig. 2, by the piece fig. 3, which consists of a base supporting the two springs *o p*. The two pieces to be sewed are placed between the clip of the springs, having their edges a little projecting, in the same manner as they are usually held by the forefinger and thumb, for which the springs are a substitute.

Although the apparatus was intended to supply the loss only of a left hand, yet it is obvious that it would equally well stand in place of a right hand, as soon as the woman had acquired the facility of holding the needle in the left hand.

The makers of surgeons' instruments, &c., who were present at the Committee, stated that they had never before heard of any contrivance for the above-mentioned purpose.

No. X.

TRUSS FOR HERNIA.

The Thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. GEORGE BUNNEY, of 26, Lower Eaton Street, Pimlico, for a Supplement to his former Communication on a Truss for Hernia.

LAST year Mr. Bunney was rewarded for a belt for corpulent persons, which belt is attached to and forms part